

Pass It On...

Albuquerque Central Office Newsletter

Website: www.albuquerqueaa.org

Intergroup Committee Meeting Minutes

*Submitted by Brian H. (Secretary)
01.13.08*

Martha G. – Member at Large

Martha opened the meeting, in Dave's absence, at 2:02 with the Serenity Prayer.

Secretary - Brian H.

Motion to accept the minutes as published in the *Pass It On* passed by acclamation.

Treasurer - Steve H.

Pleasure to serve as your new Treasurer. Month ok. Ended the year in the black – YAY. Year end economic report shows solid strength for 2007 in comparison with prior years. Income expense report from Alkathon – shows strong contribution from a successful event. 88 groups contributed to Central Office for the year 2007, with strong support from Faithful Fivers. Thanks to all for the support. Treasurer's report accepted by acclamation.

Introductions all around.

Central Office Coordinator - Michael W.

Thanks to all for the support the groups December was the all-time high for gross operating revenues. Thanks! For the first time in a very long time, neither coordinators worked a Night Phone shift, with only 15 hours on the desk. Good shift coverage all around. Will be working to keep the inventory levels in the office lower than previously due to space limitations; please keep that in mind as your groups anticipate literature orders. Thanks for the opportunity to be of service.

Alternate Coordinator - Kathy H.

Thanks for the opportunity to be of service in this gratifying year of change.

Activities Coordinator - Melissa C.

Alcothon: Generally very successful. 21 groups participated. Lots of great feedback from participants. Things with the church ended with both parties being very satisfied. Distributing a thank you card to share our sentiments of gratitude with Monte Vista Christian Church, our host for the Alcothon. Thanks for the opportunity to help make this event happen. InterGroup Speaker Meeting (Sponsored by District 3) – Saturday (3/8) – 6:00 - 7:30 – St. Tim's. Picnic on either 2nd/3rd Saturday of July 2008; Old-Timer's Meeting in August.

Member at Large - Martha G.

Nothing to report.

Pass It On Editor - Sally G.

Working on a new column idea: "Desk Worker's Log" – seeking contributors. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month.

7th Tradition Basket Passed.

Schedule Editor – Michael Q.

Not present. (Brian H reported in Michael's absence.) Shared the new Schedule Template. Discussion of possible change in publication of hard copy schedule (printing it quarterly, instead of bi-monthly) to save on both labor and expense. Online schedule will be updated on an ongoing basis.

Community Outreach - John S.

Not much going on in the last month; one referral with no return of phone call. If you would like to be on John's list of volunteers for Community Outreach

cont. on page 3

Volume 70, Issue 2

February 2008

"Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity." What can we believe in? AA does not demand belief; Twelve Steps are only suggestions. Importance of an open mind. Variety of ways to faith. Substitutions of AA as Higher Power. Plight of the disillusioned. Roadblocks of indifference and prejudice. Lost faith found in AA. Problems of intellectuality and self-sufficiency. Negative and positive thinking. Self-righteousness. Defiance is an outstanding characteristic of alcoholics. Step Two is a rallying point to sanity. Right

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Corrections Corner

This space is dedicated to the corrections community — and to be used as a message board to anyone interested in this type of service work.

First, I want to thank Ralph T., for the excellent job he did as Area 46's Corrections Chair. I am certain he'll maintain that high degree of excellence as he goes on to serve Area 46 as Delegate. Good luck, Ralph! With that said, here's my first contribution to the Corrections Corner of this issue of the Pass It On Newsletter.

I've been thinking. (When I was working, I had a woman supervisor, and whenever I would go into her office and announce, "I've been thinking," she would ask me, "Did it hurt?") Anyway, here's an idea I've been "stewing about" for a long, long time: What if the Albuquerque Central Office had a Steering Committee position—titled Corrections Something or Another—that had a job description that went something like this:

Coordinate and/or facilitate the work of individual A.A. members, groups, and districts who are interested in carrying the A.A. message of recovery to alcoholics incarcerated in the Albuquerque area, and set up means of smoothing the way from the facility to the larger A.A. community through prerelease contact. (Please note, I took most of the wording for this job description directly from the A.A. Guidelines on Corrections Committees.)

I've been going to a jail meeting for over 10 years, and at one time I also served on the Central Office Steering Committee. As a result, I know a little bit about both service entities. What I also know about Albuquerque is that the local prison and jail facilities are usually not located in the same districts as those to which most Albuquerque AAers belong. For example, when I belonged to a group that was part of District 12, I was attending a jail meeting that was physically located in District 11.

The greater Albuquerque metropolitan area has a glut of correctional facilities in its midst, including several nearby county jails, three prisons in the South Valley, the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) on the West Mesa, a Federal facility in Albuquerque, several youth facilities, a new women's facility, and a renovated long term facility on the north West Mesa. Regular AA volunteers—and potential volunteers—are scattered throughout the metropolitan area in six districts—and one Spanish Intergroup (Oficina Intergupal)—that serve the greater Albuquerque metropolitan area. It seems to me that the Albuquerque Intergroup, through its Central Office, might do a better job of matching its resources; that is, its volunteers, literature, and phone service, to these burgeoning institutions if there was some "umbrella" entity, such as the Intergroup, that would coordinate all of the local correctional activities in and around Albuquerque. In short, if we had a Central Office Steering Committee member who would regularly meet, collectively, with the six, district-correction-committee chair people (Districts 3, 11, 12, 13, 17, and 18) and the Area Corrections Chair; namely, me, then we possibly could become more effective at carrying the AA message to the incarcerated people who need to hear our message. What do you think?

Rojo R.

Central Office Steering Committee E-mail addresses:

Michael W. - CO Coordinator
Coordinator@albuquerqueaa.org

Kathy - Alt. CO Coordinator
AltCoordinator@albuquerqueaa.org

Dave C. - Chair@albuquerqueaa.org

Michael Q. -
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Melissa C.
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Martha G.
Memberatlarge@albuquerqueaa.org

Sally - PassItOn@albuquerqueaa.org

Peggy-
Specialneeds@albuquerqueaa.org

Tom C. - Website Chair
anonymous@albuquerqueaa.org

Grace L. - Media Librarian
media@albuquerqueaa.org

John -
publicinfo@albuquerqueaa.org

Steve-
treasurer@albuquerqueaa.org

Albuquerque Area Business Meetings

Intergroup Rep. Meeting
2:00 pm, 2nd Sunday
Desert Club

District 3
2:00 pm, 2nd Saturday
call the DCM for location

District 11
9:00 am, 2nd Saturday
Harwood Methodist Church
420 San Lorenzo NW (at 4th)

District 12
9:30 am, 2nd Saturday
Heights Club

District 13
10:00 am, 2nd Sunday
Desert Club

District 18
9:30 am 4th, Sunday
Rio West Church
6751 Pasilla Rd., RR, NM

Central Office Meeting Minutes *cont.*

events, please contact John or Central Office.

Special Needs - Peggy A.

Not present.

Media Librarian - Grace L.

Media Library going along as usual, with new items being added every month. New volunteers always needed to review tapes in preparation for digital transfer.

Web Guardian - Tom C.

PIO up online; now over a year of PIO archived digitally available online. Training new Schedule Editor on updating online schedule. The mapping function of the web-schedule is working well, and getting great feedback. Are presently integrating with the Area website.

Old Business:

Desktop computer for deskworkers installed and being used. Allows Deskworkers to cross-check accuracy of schedule.

New Business:

It is time to renew our contract for the Webhosting/Domain Registration and to do so independently of member's donation. Anticipated expense is approximately \$150 for two years (including name registration and hosting bandwidth). Question raised about whether InterGroup is relying too much on Internet-based communication; discussion ensued about taking on this set of expenses. Discussion will continue at next InterGroup meeting, after representatives have been able to gather feedback from their groups.

Group Announcements:

Brownbaggers have a new location (5555 Montgomery NE, at San Pedro) where meetings will commence by Monday, January 21. Brownbaggers taking a night phone shift.

Districts 3, 11, 12, 13 & 18 will be sponsoring a Gratitude Meeting to benefit for Central Office/Intergroup. Saturday (1/26) – 10 am-2 pm – Sombre Del Monte Church.

Martha closed the meeting at 3:02pm with the Third Step prayer.

ATTENDEES:

Michael W. (Coordinator/ Mountanside AA)
 Steve P. (Treasurer/Free Spirit)
 Gilbert C. (Sunrise Sobriety)
 Ron R. (Goodfellows)
 Brett B. (Serendipity/District 11)
 Allan S. (Area 46)
 Rudy B. (Queer Ideas of Fun, p36)
 Lynn H. (Ladies' Room)
 Dennis M. (Isleta Group/District 3)
 Joseph F. (Dawn Patrol)
 Carrol M. (One Day at a Time)
 Kathy H. (Alt Coordinator/ Metropolitan)
 Sally G. (PIO Editor/How It Works)
 Martha G. (Cosmopolitan/Member-At-Large)
 Shawntel P. (Straight Pepper Diet)
 Jason K. (Sunday Night Young People's)
 Tom N. (High Noon)
 Sheri C. (Women in Progress)
 Dale M. (Seniors Seeking Serenity)
 Jim O. (Live and Let Live)
 Wendy Farrell (Serendipity)
 Beverly Darnell (Cosmopolitan)
 Terri Ross (Cosmopolitan)
 Dondo (Old66)
 Melissa C. (Activities Chair/ El Centro)

Grace L. (Media Librarian/Free Spirits)
 Tom C. (Web Guardian/ Basement Steps)
 Brian H. (Secretary/Dawn Patrol)
 John S. (Brownbaggers/ Community Outreach)

The Steering Committee at Central Office encourage all groups to elect a Intergroup representative. We welcome you to come join us at the next Intergroup meeting. We meet the second Sunday of every month, at 2:00 pm, at the Desert Club.

See You There!!!

Unfinished Business

from Hamilton, Ohio:

A FRIEND OF MINE once said, "When I end the day with unfinished business, I end up dragging it into the next day with me. And I can't live one day at a time until I've dealt with yesterday."

When I remember to take a quick inventory and share it with another alcoholic, I can see my unfinished business. When I'm in the present, there's no fear, anxiety, resentment, or regret because those are things generated by dwelling on the past or future. In the present there is only action to be taken or acceptance of the way things are.

Todd C., August 1997
from "Thank You For Sharing"

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The following contributed to Central Office.....

This data is from December 1 to December 31, 2007 and is inclusive for the entire calendar month!

Groups:

- Alameda Men's Stag
- Back to Basics
- Cosmopolitan Group
- Dawning Promises
- District 11
- Downtown Lunch Bunch
- Foothills Group
- Happy Valley Group
- Lone Rangers
- Promises Group
- Red Road Convention
- Rio Rancho Beginners Group
- Serendipity
- Taylor Ranch Fellowship

Individuals:

- Anonymous
- Barbara
- Bo D.
- Charles H.
- Dan S.
- Don C.
- Julia C.
- Karen F.
- Kristin H.

Skitch F.

Faithful Fivers:

- Al J.
- Andrew S.
- Andy & Pam B.
- Beverly D.
- Catherine A.
- Cecelia D.
- Dave N.
- Don C.
- Emma D.
- Geraldine C.
- Ilse G.
- Jeanne Mac-
- Jim F.
- Mark D.
- Mary Ann Mc.
- Mike D.
- Nance C.
- Partha B.
- Phil & Barbara C.
- Ralph & Gwen T.
- Rojo R.

Thank you all for supporting your Central Office!!!!

Become a Faithful Fiver !!

Just pledge **\$ 5.00 a month** to the support of helping alcoholics who still suffer. It's tax deductible and you'll get the *Pass It On* newsletter delivered to your door.



Checks payable to: Albuquerque Central Office. *Thanks for your support!*

Dec. 07 Desk Activity

	Dec. '07	Nov. '07	Dec. '06
	This month	Last month	Last yr.
Phone calls	1284	1061	1207
Information	1061	834	945
12 step request	24	13	32
AI-Anon Info	11	19	16
Message	44	42	49
Other	144	153	165
Walk Ins	243	230	274
Information	9	13	27
12 step	1	1	2
AI-Anon	1	0	4
Schedules	16	4	15
Purchases	144	138	157
Tapes	1	3	2
Message	2	1	3
Casual	48	3	33
Other	19	35	21
Desk Workers*	90	88	
Regulars	53	53	
Substitutes	37	35	
Desk Shifts*	176	172	
Weekdays	126	132	
Weekends	50	40	
Weekday Shifts*	132	132	
Regulars	88% 111	88% 116	
Substitutes	12% 15	12% 16	
Weekend Shifts*	40	40	
Regulars	86% 43	77.5% 31	
Substitutes	14% 7	22.5% 9	
Shifts by Michael*	3/9 hrs	6/33 hrs	
Shifts by Kathy*	2/6 hrs	3/9 hrs	

Thanks to all who participated this month.

* includes night phone

Principles Before Personalities

from Clearwater, Ontario

WHEN I ATTENDED my first AA meeting four years ago, I was immediately attracted by the principle of anonymity. Despite the fact that my life had become unmanageable and I was in pain, there still remained a vestige of pride that kept me from wanting anyone to know who I was or what I did for a living. You see, I am in elementary school teacher.

Alcohol had beaten me down to a point where I was morally and emotionally bankrupt, and this didn't sit well with what I believed to be society's accepted ideal of a teacher of young children. I was acutely conscious of the fact that I was a creature beneath contempt.

But in AA, I could keep my identity a secret. It wasn't long, however, before my anonymity was threatened.

One night a couple of months after I'd been introduced to AA, a member of my home group approached me and declared, "I finally figured out who you are." I had taught her son a few years previously and she had just now recognized me. Initially, I was disturbed by this discovery, but after talking with her, I relaxed and soon forgot that I was her son's teacher and felt the friendship of one AA member for another.

As I attended a wider range of meeting places, I eventually met other members whose children I was presently teaching, and it became easier and easier to approach them, not in any professional capacity, but as a fellow AA.

Throughout this time I still carried with me one primary fear. Although I felt at ease talking with parents of my students within the Fellowship, I did have a fear of going to open AA meetings because I knew some of my pupils attended these meetings with their parents. I feared that my alcoholism would become a matter of public attention if ever I was seen at an open meeting. This then has been the motivation for me to attend mostly closed meetings in AA during the last few years.

Last December I was on call for the AA answering service when I received a Twelfth Step request from a man to take him to an AA meeting on the following night. Unfortunately for me, the meeting the next night was an open meeting, and I was faced with the old dilemma.

I told this caller that I would have to get back to him, and I pondered what to do. I was scared that my valued principle of anonymity would be threatened. Dare I take this man to an open meeting and risk seeing a student? Should I refer the newcomer to someone else for help?

The next night I picked up my new friend and went to the open meeting, feeling anxious about what would happen. I was not in the meeting for more than ten minutes when I heard, "Hello, Mr. T." Turning around, I faced two of my students. Well, the sky didn't fall down, and they didn't ask me what I was doing there. We talked briefly and then parted as the meeting got started.

What these students of mine decide to do with their knowledge about me is beyond my control. Perhaps I don't give them enough credit for understanding AA principles even though they have parents actively involved in the program.

What I did learn from this entire episode was something about anonymity as it affects me. Our Twelfth Tradition states: "Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities." Prior to this open meeting, there was little of a spiritual nature in my understanding of anonymity. Certainly my personality had priority over the principle of service. It was that night when I began to see how anonymity as the spiritual foundation of my AA program is there not to protect me from you but to protect me from myself.

B.T., September 1989

*From Thank You For Sharing - Sixty Years Of Letters To The AA Grapevine
pages 113 and 114*

Other Numbers: Al-Anon (505) 262-2177 Oficina Intergruppal Hispana (505) 266-3688

Announcements, Reminders, Birthdays, etc.

The Ladies Room

Kimber C. 18 months
Nicole W. 18 months

Seniors Seeking Serenity

Anita J. 2/23/69 39 years
Lois W. 2/28/74 34 years

Isleta Group

Reule 9 months
Leanna 3 years
Rosanna T. 7 years
Manual P. 20 years

El Centro

Paula H. 1 year
Susan B. 3 months
Christine 13 years
Jory 3 months
Chad 3 years
Christian 1 year
Joe M. 4 years
Troy 3 months

Foothills Group

Bill A. 17 years

How It Works

Tim 8 years
Dave T. 21 years
Wendell J. 22 years



I would be happy to print just about anything in the *Pass It On*....(sources need to be verified.) The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month. Remember, the *Pass It On* is distributed to groups on the second Sunday of every month at the intergroup meeting. So, if you want your information published, submit early!

Thanks! Sally G.,
Pass It On editor

Brownbaggers has moved!!

And is now meeting at
5555 Montgomery Blvd. NE

Right next to Red Lobster,
in the breezeway. (Not sure
of the suite number.)

Albuquerque Central Office Intergroup

Potluck Speaker Meeting Hosted by **District 3**

Hear a wonderful speaker share his
experience, strength and hope.
Eat good food, and join us in the
Fellowship you crave.

Guest Speaker: Max S.

Saturday March 8th
St. Timothy's - 211 Jefferson NE

Potluck starts @ 6:00 p.m.
Speaker starts @ 7:30 p.m.

Raffle drawing at the end of
the meeting.

Please bring raffle items to Central Office
266-1900

Albuquerque Central Office Contributors - End of Year 2007

1-2-3 Beginners Group	\$ 150.00	Magdalena 12 & 12	\$ 82.39
Alameda Men's Stag	398.25	Magdalena Group	22.00
Any Lengths Women's Group	180.00	Monday Nite Live	67.20
Back to Basics - Albuquerque	335.00	Mountainside Group	44.00
Basement Steps Group	40.00	New Frontier Group	200.00
Beginners Group - Rio Rancho	299.30	Old 66 Group - Edgewood	128.21
Belen City Group	927.71	One Day At A Time	635.00
Brownbaggers	533.99	Placitas Group	230.00
Came To Believe Group - Estancia	20.00	Promises Group	850.00
Campus Step Study	50.00	Queer Ideas of Fun	220.00
Chama Group	75.00	Raymac Group	10.00
Corrales Group	216.25	Rio Amigos Group	50.00
Corrales Men's Stag	105.00	Rio Rancho Men's Stag	75.00
Corrales Smokefree Group	154.00	S.O.S. Monday Night	325.00
Cosmopolitan Group	127.24	Sandia Serenity Study Group	50.00
Dawn Patrol	3,895.11	Seeking Serenity	455.00
Dawning Promises	116.37	Seniors Seeking Serenity	563.00
Del Norte Breakfast Group	443.20	Serendipity Group	520.80
Direct Amends Group	150.00	Serenity Group of Albuquerque	280.00
Down Under Group	250.00	Share the Legacy	300.00
Downtown Lunch Bunch	1,218.00	Six O'Clock Irregulars	10.00
East Mountain Group	885.00	Sponsorship & Growth	100.00
Experience Strength & Hope Group	5.00	Staying Sober at Sunrise	245.00
Foothills Group	4,466.52	Step Along With AA	114.25
Fourth Dimension Group	55.47	Sunday Night Serenity	275.00
Free Spirits Group	205.22	Sunday Night Step Study	318.00
Freedom From Bondage	550.00	Sunlight of The Spirit	35.00
Friday Night Live Group	97.50	Sunrise Catchers	25.00
Friday Night Smokeless Group 164	160.00	Sunrise Sobriety	445.22
Happy Hour Group	150.00	Taylor Ranch Fellowship	46.18
Happy Valley Group	85.47	The Ladies Room	268.04
High Country Group	186.21	Thinking Straight	100.00
High Noon Group	250.00	Three Legacies Group	90.00
Hole In The Wall Group - Capitan	200.00	Triangle Group	60.00
How It Works	26.00	Tuesday 12 and 12	15.00
Isleta Group	502.00	Tuesday Knights	42.96
Jemez Springs Group	230.95	Vaya Con Dios - T or C, NM	50.00
Kiva Group	40.00	Westside AA	275.00
Live and Let Live	500.05	Westside Noon Group	436.64
Lone Rangers Group	171.98	Women In Progress	4.00
Lunch Box Group - Rio Rancho	905.12	Women's Group - Rio Rancho	50.00
	900.00	Zia Pueblo Group	25.00
		Group Totals	\$ 28,395.05
Individual Contributions	\$ 7,416.25	Special AA Event Contributions	\$ 2,836.82
Faithful Fivers	1,425.00	Other AA Contributors	308.32
Alcothon	702.62		

Albuquerque Central Office Newsletter

1921 Alvarado NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
(505) 266-1900

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1921 Alvarado NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

The Central Office of
Albuquerque is open:

Monday through Friday

8:00 am to 10:00 pm

Saturday and Sunday

9:00 am to 9:00 pm

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The Central Office is
located two blocks
north of
Constitution and four
blocks east of San
Mateo.